orld Bank assistance for Operation Flood Phase-II

1659. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank propose to give a loan of $ 360 million for the third phase of 'Operation Flood Programme' to boost dairy development activities in the country; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The basic objectives of the Operation Flood III are to consolidate the gains already achieved, expansion in the number of village cooperative societies, expansion of milk procurement, processing & marketing facilities, productivity enhancement meaures, etc.

Establishment of All India Radio Station at Keonjhargarh

1660. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1363 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th November, 1987 and state:

(a) whether the construction of office building for the All India Radio Station in Keonjhargarh has been completed;

(b) whether the radio station has not started functioning so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when this local radio station is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) The construction of the building for All India Radio station at Keonjhargarh has been completed and the installation of studios and Transmitter equipment is in final stages of completion and testing.

(d) The station is likely to be commissioned in June, 1988.

Manufacturing cost of fertilizers

1661. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the imported fertilizers are cheaper than those produced in the country;

(b) if so, the comparative manufacturing cost of each fertilizer per tonne; and

(c) the causes for high cost and steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) The comparative cost of indigenous and imported fertilizers as prevalent in the second half of February, 1988 is as under:—

(Average cost per tonne Rs.)

	Indigenous	*Imported*
	Average cost per tonne (Rs.) Indigenious	Imported
1. Urea	3380 (Ex-factoty price)	2500 (C&F+handing-charges
2. DAP	4147 (Ex-factory price)	3785 (C&F+handing charges)

(c) Price of imported fertilizer is determined by many factors e.g, international demand and supply situation, price of feedstock and vintage of the plants in the countries from where import is made. This is why landed price of imported fertilizer does not reflect the actual cost of production internationally. On the other hand, cost of fertilizer produc-